

REMARKS

Introduction

Reconsideration of the present application as amended and in view of the additional discussion below is respectfully requested.

The present application includes claims 8-22, 26, and 29-45, wherein claims 8, 11, 16, 21, 34, 41 and 44 are presented in independent form and claims 23-25, 27, and 28 are withdrawn from consideration but depend from a generic independent claim.

With this Amendment, Applicants have canceled claims 8-10, 12-22, 26, 29, and 34-43 to place the application in condition for allowance or for consideration on appeal. Upon entry of the above amendments claims 11, 30-33, 44 and 45 will be pending in this application. Applicants do not acquiesce in the Examiner's rejections, but instead have elected to make the above-mentioned amendments in an effort to expedite prosecution of this application leading to issuance of a patent.

Allowed claims

Applicants acknowledge with appreciation the allowance of claim 11, 30-33, 44 and 45.

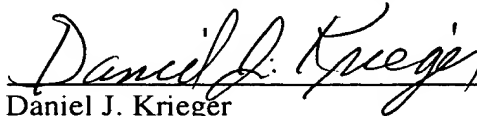
Final Remarks

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants submit that the application is now in condition for allowance. A Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited.

If necessary, Applicants request that this Response be considered a request for an extension of time for a time appropriate for the response to be timely filed. Applicants request that any required fees needed beyond those submitted with this Response be charged to the account of Bose McKinney & Evans LLP, Deposit Account Number 02-3223.

Respectfully submitted,

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